

To-day's
Advertisements.

TO LET.

"HARFORD" MAGAZINE GAP.
GROUND FLOOR, 52, PEEL STREET.
No. 4, RIFON TERRACE.
Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [12]

SHEWAN TOMES & CO. "NEW YORK"
LINE.

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.
THE Steamship

"QUEEN ELIZABETH"
will be despatched from the above Port, TO-
MORROW, the 20th instant, at 10 A.M.

The Steamship
"MOHAWK"
to sail on or about the 5th March.

For Freight, apply to
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [19b]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.
THE Company's Steamship

"HAIYAN"
Captain, Roach, will be despatched from the
above Ports, on WEDNESDAY, the 21st instant,
at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAMPAK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [223b]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR NAGASAKI, KOBE AND
YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"DENBIGHSHIRE"
H.N. Vyvyan, Commander, will be despatched
from the above Ports, on WEDNESDAY, the
21st instant, at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [129b]

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA.
(Riviera and Adriatic Ports)

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG AND BOMBAY.

Having connection with Company's Mail
Steamers to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID,
MESSINA, NAPLES, LEGHORN AND
GENOA.

ALSO
VENICE, TRIESTE, ALL MEDITER-
RANEAN, ADRIATIC, LIGURIAN,
and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS up
to CALAIO.

Taking Cargo at Through Rates to PERSIAN
GULF and BAGHDAD, also BARCE-
LONA, VALENCIA, ALICANTE, AL-
MERIA and MALAGA.

THE Steamship

"BORMIDA"
Captain G. Satorio, will be despatched as
above on THURSDAY, the 22nd instant, at
Noon.

At Bombay, the Steamers are discharging
in Victoria Dock.

For further Particulars regarding Freight
and Passage, apply to
CARLOWITZ & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [230b]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, CEBU, AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship

"ESMERALDA"
Captain A. Ramsey, will be despatched from the
above Port, on THURSDAY, the 22nd instant,
at 4 P.M.

This steamer has Superior Accommodation for
Passengers and is fitted with the Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [220b]

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

STEAM FOR
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, HIOGO AND
YOKOHAMA.

THE Imperial German Mail Steamship

"STUTTGART"
of the Norddeutscher Lloyd.

Captain P. Giesch, due here with the out-
ward German Mail about the 22nd instant, will
leave for the above places about 24 hours after
arrival.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.
For further Particulars, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [22]

THE OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"TAMSUI MARU"
Captain K. Sobajima, will be despatched from the
above Port, on SUNDAY, the 25th instant,
at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [45]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBRO, LONDON,
PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"DENBIGHSHIRE"
Captain Vyvyan, having arrived from the
above Ports, Consignees of Goods are hereby
informed that their goods are being landed at
their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong
& Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company,
Limited, at Kowloon and stored at Consignees'
risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining
undispatched after the 24th instant, will be
subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are
to be left in the Godowns, where they will be
examined on the 23rd instant, at 2.30 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
SHEWAN TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [229b]

To-day's
Advertisement.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

TENDERS will be received for the supply
of PROVISIONS, and for SERVICES,
as below, required for the Troops at Hongkong
for 12 months from 1st April, 1900:—
PROVISIONS.

1. General Supplies for Troops, including:
Rice, Groceries, Vegetables, also Cattle,
Wood and Oil, &c.

2. Hospital Supplies, including: Beef, Mutton,
Pork, Groceries, Fruit, Wines, and
Medical Comforts generally.

3. Hire of Launches, Cargo Boats, and Cattle
Labour, &c., &c.

4. Watchmen.

5. Washing, Bedding and Clothing.

6. Scavenging, Sweeping Chimneys, Supply-
ing Dry Earth, Lighting Lamps, and
Supplying Oil for same.

7. Purchase of Empty Porter Hogsheads.

TENDERS must be made on FORMS
which may be obtained at HEADQUARTER OFFICE,
15, Fletcher Street, between the hours of 10
A.M. and 4 P.M. daily up to the 26th February,
1900.

Hongkong, 19th February, 1900. [228b]

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
LIMITED.

WINE MERCHANTS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

CLARETS.

These CLARETS are bought direct
from the leading French growers.
The lowest priced are of exceptional
value and guaranteed to be the
genuine product of the vine of the
grape, and are not artificially made
as is generally the case with cheap
Wines.

CHATEAU LA TOUR CARNET, CHA-
TEAU RATZAN, and CHATEAU LAPITTE
are commended to the notice of Com-
missioners as high-class after-dinner
Wines of a rich and rare character.

Sample bottles and small quantities
will be supplied at proportionate
wholesale rates.

Warranted our Wines and Spirits
to be genuine only when bought
direct from us in the Colony or from
our authorised Agents at the Coast
Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1900.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

At last we have received news of a British
victory without having our hopes dashed to
the ground next day by the announcement
that it has been turned into a defeat, or that
we have been led into a trap or been forced
to abandon the position won. It really ap-
pears as though the tide of war, which has
for so long been running strongly against us,
has turned and that General Lord Roberts
will lead our troops to Pretoria and victory
upon its flood. It is more than probable
that since the arrival of Lord Roberts in
South Africa the operations which our
troops have been engaged in in Natal
have been carried on to a very great extent,
merely with the object of keeping the
Boers employed while Lord Roberts' plans,
which are just opening so successfully, were
in course of preparation. During the
whole of these preparations, it will be
noticed, no news was allowed to be
telegraphed of our movements, except as re-
gards Natal and the forces in the North
East of Cape Colony, and it now appears as
if this rigid censorship has had the effect
of leading the Boers to imagine themselves
secure in turning the whole of their attention
to the immediate vicinities of Colenso and
Ladysmith while a comparatively small
force under General Cronje was considered
adequate to look after any advance on Kim-
berley and Mafeking from the direction
of Cape Colony. Now, however, General
Lord Roberts has met strategy with
strategy and, by the forcing of the passage of
the Modder River and the relief of Kimberley,
has opened the direct route to Bloemfontein
and Pretoria; more than this, he has opened
the best route, for by advancing into the
Orange Free State and the Transvaal from
the South West a much less difficult country
will have to be negotiated offering none of the
disadvantages given by the kopjes and hills,
which in Natal and the North East of Cape
Colony form a series of ready-made fortresses
for the accommodation of the Boers, and of
which they know so well how to
avail themselves. We do not for a
moment wish to be understood as hinting
that there will be very little fighting on Lord
ROBERTS' route, for we think that there, will

be plenty of it, but it will be fighting of a
different description to that in which our
troops in South Africa have hitherto been
engaged. They will now meet the Boers in
the open and, as has been proved on pre-
vious occasions, the latter cannot face our
troops on equal terms. As Kipling sings of
Lord Roberts:—

"Oh! 'e's little, but 'e's wise;
'E's a terror for 'is size;
and it is evident that we have at last got the
right man in the right place and can safely
leave him to see matters through."

THE CENSORSHIP.

There has been much growling and grum-
bling about the censorship during the last
few weeks and it has certainly been most un-
pleasant to be left so entirely in the dark for
so long. It must not be forgotten, how-
ever, that what is made public to us is also
made public to the Boers and had we been
kept posted with regard to Lord Roberts'
movements and plans his whole scheme
might have fallen through owing to the
Boers having got wind of it and reinforced
Cronje to such an extent as to have enabled
him to block our troops on the way to Kim-
berley successfully as has been done with
the force at the Tugela River. The telegraph
is certainly a most beneficial aid to modern
warfare, but it can also prove to be the
General's highest by enabling correspondents
to keep the whole world supplied with the
news of every movement made or hint
of a plan of attack dropped inadvertently.

This has been foreseen by Lord Roberts
and he has sat tight on the end of the wire
with the happy result we now witness.
Doubtless full reports of the relief of Kim-
berley will now be allowed to be sent forward
but it will be at the discretion of Lord Roberts
and his staff as to whether or no we are to
be informed as to the next move. He had
very little telegraphic communication on his
famous march to Kandahar and it may well
be that he prefers to do without it.

Kelly-Kenny yesterday captured 78 waggons
of stores, two of which were laden with
Maunder rifles and a quantity of shells and
explosives, all belonging to Commandant
Cronje's larger, which the British artillery
was shelling when General Kitchener des-
patched the messenger.

Commandant Cronje had been compelled
to from a larger with his uncaptured waggons
owing to the fatigue of his oxen.

THE OBSERVATORY REPORT.

The Observatory report says:—
On the 17th at 11.35 a.m. the barometer has
risen on the China coast. Pressure is high over
N. China, and the depression has probably
reached S.W. Japan. Gradients moderate with
strong monsoon on the coast in the N. part of
the China Sea. FORECAST:—Fresh N. winds;
rainy at first, improving later.

On the 18th at 11.55 a.m. barometric changes
are slight. The high pressure area remains
central over N. China and gradients continue
moderate with strong monsoon on the coast
and in the N. part of the China Sea. FORE-
CAST:—Fresh N.E. winds; dull, rainy.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Post Office will be closed at noon on the
20th, 21st and 22nd inst. The Night Box will
be left open.

The return of the number of visitors to the
City Hall Museum for the week ended 18th
February, are:—Europeans 244, Chinese 3,664;
total 4,208.

The police in Penak have just brought to light
a very ingenious way of ore stealing from tin
mines, which has apparently been in vogue for
a considerable time. The ore was placed in
buckets and covered up with refuse rice, and
has thus been passing through the mines un-
challenged, under the very noses of its guard-
ians.

ON Saturday evening the Amateur Dramatic
Club gave their third performance of Gilbert
and Sullivan's "Yeomen of the Guard" to a
full house. The piece went with a fine swing
and is one of the most successful, if not the
best, that our A.D.C. has staged. Bouquets
were presented to Mesdames Campbell and
Baddely during the evening. The former still
appears to be a trifle nervous at the opening
of the performance, but this wore off as the
play proceeded and she was in capital form to-
wards the latter part. Might we suggest that
the accompaniments as played by the band are
a little loud? Now and again the voices of the
singers were quite drowned by the music and
were inaudible from the circle.

THE RACES.

TIPS FOR TO-MORROW.

The sudden alteration in the weather, bring-
ing with it the prospect of a sloppy, heavy
course has naturally upset the calculations of
not a few of our local sportsmen with the result
that nobody cares to trust too much to their
own observations alone for the spotting of a
probable winner. In all probability we shall
see some rank outsiders coming romping in
races which were hitherto considered to be a
foregone conclusion for the favourite, and the
favourite labouring heavily in the rear, while
other ponies, to whom the conditions are more
suitable, easily outdistance him. On the whole
the meeting promises to be a good one, how-
ever, and it is to be hoped that to-morrow's
clown will show a glimpse of blue sky and a
less sloppy state of affairs. Below are our
selections for to-morrow:

The Wong-nai-chong Stakes:—
Beechnut.....1
Tide Rose.....2
Esperance.....3

The "Victoria" Stakes:—
Charger.....1
Forest King.....2
Sandstorm.....3

The Maiden Stakes:—
Bullbul.....1
Strathdonald.....2
Ting Haou.....3

The Valley Stakes:—
Impudal.....1
Sartow.....2
Orange Blossom.....3

The Fochow Cup:—
Rose de France.....1
Philo.....2
Shannon.....3

The Hongkong Derby:—
Thunderstorm.....1
Modder.....2
Ting Haou.....3

The Lusitano Cup:—
Cossack.....1
Standard Rose.....2
Tiber.....3

The Comrades' Cup:—
Rover.....1
The Robber.....2
Major.....3

The Hongkong Club Cup:—
Rose de France.....1
Shannon.....2
Bull.....3

The following is the programme for to-
morrow's racing:—
FIRST DAY.—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH.

THE WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES, a sweepstakes
of \$5 each with \$100 added; second pony to
receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for
inches as per scale; griffins on date of entry
allowed 7 lbs. Half a Mile.

THE "VICTORIA" STAKES, a sweepstakes of
\$10 each with \$50 added; second pony to
receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for
inches as per scale. One Mile.

THE MAIDEN STAKES, value \$400; second
pony to receive \$75; third, \$50; for China
ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of entry;
weight for inches as per scale; entrance \$10.
Three Quarters of a Mile.

THE VALLEY STAKES, a sweepstakes of \$5
each with \$20 added; first pony to receive
70 per cent; second, 20 per cent; third,
10 per cent; for subscription griffins of this
season, 1899-1900; weight for inches as per
scale. Three Quarters of a Mile.

THE FOCHOW CUP, value \$250; presented by
the Fochow community; second pony to
receive \$50; for China ponies; weight for
inches as per scale; entrance \$5. One Mile
and three quarters.

THE HONGKONG DERBY, a sweepstakes of
\$20 each with \$1,500 added (half forfeit if
declared on or before day of closing entries);
for China ponies *bona fide* griffins on date of
entry (Saturday, 20th January, 1900); first

pressing when the whistle blew for half time
nothing having been scored for either side.
On changing ends, Shiels took the kick,
and took his front rank along in rattling style.
Being hard pressed by Owens, he passed the
leather over to Edwards who was loudly
cheered for the tricky manner in which
he got past all opposition, he had, however,
got rather too far up the line so he
sent across to the opposite wing. Dobbs,
however, was faulty and failed to utilize a
splendid opportunity and the ball went out.
From the kick out, "B" Coy. appeared to
buck up a bit and at once got away into their
opponents' territory. The game had to be
stopped for a few minutes at this period owing
to Tomlinson getting slightly hurt while tack-
ling on the right wing. The ball was then
thrown up by the Referee. Dinshary secured
and some fine head work was indulged in on
the right wing. Gregory got the ball from his
partner, but being tackled by Baldson, loosed
it across to Dawson, who rushed the sphere
into the net thus getting the first goal for "B"
to minutes after the interval.

After restarting, "H" Company seemed to
realize their position, and went for the other
end with a vengeance. Shiels made a fine run
up the centre and equalized with a grand shot
which completely dazed Steed.

Clark started the ball rolling again for "B"
and the forwards got away with a rush, but
Waller's tackling was too much for them and
the leather was returned up the field.

"H" Company were now having all the
best of matters and a fine centre from Lieut.
Bell-Action enabled Shiels to again find the net
with another hard shot 5 minutes after.

After this "B" Company appeared to give
way a bit, and some time play for place in
mid-field. Dawson managed to break away
but he collided accidentally with Smart the big
back of "H" and play again had to be stopped
owing to an injury to the former's leg. On
being set to rights the game was resumed, and
"H" Company were pressing when the whistle
brought the game to a close with the score—
"H" Company 2 goals, "B" Company 1 goal.

COMMENTS.

Both teams played a hard game, but some
of the players appeared to be a bit un-
friendly, which is certainly not sportsmanlike.
Dawson and Smart were the biggest offenders in this
respect and had to be cautioned by the Referee.
Good football was played by both sides and
the score more shows that the game was well
contested.

Shiels did yeoman service for the victors, and
was always dangerous. Dawson played a
good game for "B" Company, giving Johnson
plenty to do in goal. "H" Company had
kept up the play in the second half that they
did in the first, the score might easily have
been very different. As it was however, they
fell away after the interval, while "H" seemed
to improve.

"H" Company will now have to meet the
winners of "C" Company, R. W. F. versus
Engineers' Institute in the final and a good
game is likely to be the result if they keep up
to Saturday's form.

THE GAZETTE.

The following Bills, which were read a first
time at a Meeting of the Legislative Council
held on the 15th February, 1900, are published:—

An Ordinance to further amend the Post
Office Ordinance, 1887.

An Ordinance for the naturalization of Wan
Kam Tsung alias Wan Tsing Kai alias Wan
Ming Kung.

An Ordinance to further amend the Public
Health Ordinance, 1887.

An Ordinance to authorize the imposition of
fees for the issue by the Government of Hong-
kong of certain certificates to certain Chinese.

An Ordinance for the establishment of a
Hospital for infectious diseases in connection
with the Tung Wa Hospital.

At a meeting held at St. John's Cathedral on
the 20th January, 1900, by the Cathedral and
subscribers, the following gentlemen were
elected Lay members of the Church Body for
1900:—St. John Worrell, Carrington, C.M.G.;
Hon. William Meigh Goodman, Hon. Robert
Daly Omsby, Hon. Henry Edward Pollock,
Hon. Robert Murray Rymey, Henry Robert
Hardcastle (Hon. Secretary) Robert Thomas
Wright (Auditor).

His Excellency the Governor has been
pleased to appoint temporarily as Inspector of
Nuisances, John William Moore.

It is notified that His Excellency the Govern-
or has been pleased to appoint Peveril
Phillip John Weddhouse, to be Deputy Registrar
of Marriages in addition to his office of First
Clerk in the Registrar General's Department.

Reginald Fleming Johnston has been ap-
pointed by His Excellency the Governor to be
Acting Assistant Colonial Secretary in addition
to his acting appointment as Clerk of Councils.

At Colonel Michael Richard Ryan, R.A.M.C.,
has been appointed by His Excellency the
Governor to be a member of the Sanitary
Board for a period of three years from the
16th February, vice Major Harry Herbert
Brown, R.A.M.C. resigned.

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Sir John Carrington, Kt., C.M.G.,
Chief Justice.)

February 16th.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE 1 OF 1865
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE MAN ON
INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

On the 5th February, Mr. Marcus W. Slade
(instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist)
made an ex-parte application, on behalf of Ho
Tung, of Victoria, in the colony of Hongkong,
comprador, that the register of members of
the above-named company may be rectified by
removing the name of Cheng Wing Shun there-
from in respect of several shares in the said com-
pany, numbered respectively 2,454, 2,905, 2,947,
3,492, 4,832, 4,833, and 4,834, and the name of
Lai Yung Tak Tong therefrom in respect of
four shares in the said company, numbered
4,255, 4,256, 4,257, and 4,258, respectively, and
substituting for the names of the said Cheng
Wing Shun and Lai Yung Tak Tong the name of
the applicant, as the holder of the said shares,
and that the said company may be ordered to
pay to the applicant his costs of and occasioned
by this application of which other order may
be made as the court may seem just.

On that occasion the Acting Chief Justice
(the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman) made an order
in the Man On Insurance Company to show
cause why an order should not be made in the
terms of the motion.

Mr. J. Francis, O.C. (instructed by Messrs.
Deacon and Hastings) appeared for the Insur-
ance Company.

Mr. Ho Tung has made the following
affidavit:—

"I, J. Francis, O.C. (instructed by Messrs.
Deacon and Hastings) appeared for the Insur-
ance Company.

Mr. Ho Tung has made the following
affidavit:—

"On the 6th day of August last I purchased from one Cheng Wing Shan seven shares in the above-named company numbered respectively 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, and 2460, and received from the said Cheng Wing Shan the certificates for the said shares and an instrument of transfer thereof duly executed by the said Cheng Wing Shan and attested."

"In or about the latter part of September, 1899, I handed the said certificates and instrument of transfer duly executed by both the said Cheng Wing Shan and myself and attested to by my assistant, Pang Shan Chun, and directed him to attend at the registered office of the above-named company and apply for the registration of such transfer. I was subsequently informed by the said Pang Shan Chun that he had again attended at the office of the said company in the month of October, 1899, but was told by the secretary of the said company that the said transfer could not be registered, as there were an insufficient number of directors in the colony at the time to consider the matter."

"I afterwards personally saw the secretary of the said company and was informed by him that the said directors refused to allow the transfer to me of the said shares to be registered."

"On the 27th day of November, 1899, I instructed my solicitors, Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, in writing to the secretary of the said company and formally applied to have the said shares registered in my name, and they accordingly did so. On the 7th day of December, 1899, my said solicitors received a letter from Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, the solicitors for the said company, stating that the Board of Directors of the said company had decided that they were unable to approve of the transfer to me of the said shares."

"On the 28th day of November, 1899, I agreed to purchase from one Tai Yung Tak Tong, alias Tai Chuk Lam, four other shares on the above-named company numbered respectively 4353, 4354, 4355, and 4356, in the event of the said company being able to register the said shares, which I was informed by the said Tai Yung Tak Tong he had offered to sell to the said company."

"On the 8th day of January, 1900, having been informed by the said Tai Yung Tak Tong that the said company had declined to purchase the said shares at the price for which he had offered to sell the same, I completed the purchase thereof and received from the said Tai Yung Tak Tong the certificate for the said shares and an instrument to transfer thereof from himself to me duly executed by him and attested, which said instrument I also executed myself."

"On the said 8th day of January, 1900, my solicitors, Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, who also acted as the solicitors for the said Tai Yung Tak Tong, wrote to the secretary of the said company, informing him that the said shares had been sold and transferred to me and requesting that they might be registered in my name. To this letter my said solicitors on the 12th day of January, 1900, received a reply written by the solicitor for the said company, stating that the directors of the said company were of opinion that I was not a fit person to hold shares in the said company, and they declined, therefore, to register the transfer to me in pursuance of the powers vested in them in that behalf by Article 21 and 28 of the Articles of Association of the said company, and further stating that the reason for the aforesaid opinion of the said directors was that as I was a shareholder and largely interested in other insurance companies carrying on business in competition with the above-named company, it would not be for the interests of the said company to allow me to become a shareholder therein."

"I am possessed of considerable personal property in this colony, which fact is well known to every member of the said Board of Directors, and, as I verily believe, my reputation among both the European and Chinese members of the community of Hongkong is irreproachable."

"Neither of them, the said Cheng Wing Shan and Tai Yung Tak Tong, is, I am informed by them and verily believe indebted in any sum whatever to the said company, and neither of them is, I verily believe, in a position to assist in any way in increasing the prosperity of the said company."

"I have myself on many occasions given business to the said company, and there are no legitimate grounds whatsoever for considering the registration of myself as the proprietor of the said shares in the said company, and I verily believe that the real reason for the refusal of the said Board of Directors to allow me to be so registered has nothing to do with the question as to whether or not I was a fit and proper person to hold shares in the said company, but that the said directors, or some of them, are actuated by improper motives in refusing to approve of the transfers to me of the said shares."

"Several of the said directors are, to my own knowledge, themselves shareholders or personally interested in other insurance companies carrying on business in this colony of precisely the same nature as the above-named company."

"The form in which the original transfers to me of the said shares executed by the said Cheng Wing Shan and Tai Yung Tak Tong were drawn is the form adopted by the above-named company for all transfers of shares in the said company, but I also hold instruments of transfer of the said shares in the form provided by clause of Table A in the first schedule to Ordinance No. 1 of 1895, which instruments have been received and accepted by the said Cheng Wing Shan and Tai Yung Tak Tong and myself."

disapproval of a candidate is not a question for the Court to decide upon, unless the opposition can show that the directors have exercised their powers improperly or with malice."

On Saturday morning Mr. Slade replied on behalf of Mr. Ho Tung. After first citing the ordinance by which, registered limited liability companies were governed he showed that the Man On Insurance Company was not legally constituted and therefore their so-called articles of association were not binding, and if the whole articles were not then certainly one special article was not. He then quoted instances in which the non-compliance with the letter of the law had set aside the articles. Mr. Francis said that the rejection of these articles would have a most disastrous effect. The law provided for this and said that in this case the printed set of articles, which could be amended or altered to suit the requirements of the company would be assumed as the articles of the company. To show how important it was that this rule was observed Mr. Slade said that when rejected, doubts would be cast upon the validity of the resolutions in this case, in the wording of the resolutions that had been subsequently passed amending the original so-called articles. Dealing with the argument that the memorandum were attached, therefore, the signatures on the memorandum were applicable to the other document, Mr. Slade contended that a paper fastener, could not upset the Ordinance which said both documents should be signed. There had been no evidence to show that they had been originally fastened together, it might have been done at the Registrar's office. The learned counsel then pointed out the discrepancy between the conditions on the share certificate and in the so-called articles of association. On the former the terms were that when a shareholder wished to dispose of his shares, he would first have to offer them to the other shareholders in the company. In the Articles it said that the shareholder would have to obtain the sanction of the directors before he could sell his shares. Mr. Slade contended that both terms were made when the company originally started and asked His Lordship to decide which one of the two was the correct one. Mr. Slade concluded by asking that the ruling of the late Acting Chief Justice be maintained. His Lordship said he would take time to consider and would reserve his judgment until probably the end of this week.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

February 19th.

CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD.

This morning at the Supreme Court the usual monthly Criminal sessions were commenced before His Lordship Sir John Carrington.

Cheung Ping Nam was charged under three counts: 1. Obtaining money by false pretences; 2. Obtaining money under false pretences; 3. Conspiring to defraud.

The Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, Attorney General (instructed by Mr. Bowley) appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the defence.

Before this case was gone into the Attorney-General said he had been carefully looking into the cases against Ip Wing and Li Hon San, the former charged with bribery and the latter with rape in the New Territory, and did not consider there was enough evidence for a jury to convict. He did not propose to proceed against them. He would therefore ask His Lordship to discharge them either at the end of the sessions or else now by proclamation.

The prisoners were brought into Court and discharged by proclamation.

The prisoner (Cheung Ping Nam) pleaded not guilty on all counts.

The following gentlemen were called to serve on the jury: Messrs. A. Cameron, L. Rozario, P. Lawrence, W. Slade, J. Walker, H. Netherland, and C. H. H. H.

The Hon. W. Meigh Goodman (Attorney General) in opening the case for the prosecution said the first count was for a sum of \$45 received on the 2nd December, 1899 by the prisoner and a further sum of \$120 received by him and a man named Ng Kwai Fong on the 5th of December from a man named Ip Wing (the prosecutor). The facts were the prisoner heard that Ip Wing was desirous of obtaining premises suitable for a boarding house and so went to him and offered for a commission, to obtain them. He took Ip Wing post No. 26, Wing Kai Street, and a man named Ng Kwai Fong, who seemed to suit, the prisoner said he knew the rent-collector and so would be able to procure the premises. He shortly after received \$45 from Ip Wing on account of the money he was going to receive for procuring the house. Ip Wing wished to see the rent collector, and the prisoner found himself in a difficulty, but was equal to the occasion and took his friend Ng Kwai Fong to Ip Wing and told him that as the rent collector had gone to his country and Ng Kwai Fong was acting in his place. Arrangements were then made that the prisoner should pay \$5 for the first month's rent in advance and \$200 on the 15th of January. This was on December 30th and on January 1st another \$50 was paid and the prisoner agreed that the prosecutor should have the premises on or about the 10th of January. The receipts were taken back and a note written, on promissory note paper bearing a stamp, containing the stipulation that the prisoner should forfeit double if the contract was not completed. The prosecutor did not enter into possession on the 10th of January and Ng Kwai Fong had absconded. The prisoner, after the absconding of Ng Kwai Fong, had come to the police station to enter a charge against him, but was detained and the present trial commenced. The learned counsel submitted that this was a part of the scheme. He was going to bring as evidence the real rent collector and owner of the house who would show that they did not know the prisoner and that the present tenant at No. 26 Wing Kai Street was a desirable one in every respect and that they had no intention of removing him. The learned Counsel before proceeding to quote law cases bearing on the subject, said it was his duty to open the case as fully as possible, the jury would have to find their verdict on the evidence alone, if they had any doubt of the guilt of the prisoner, Mr. Slade said he would ask them to acquit the prisoner. He then proceeded to deal with the law bearing on the subject.

During his opening address the Attorney-General was frequently interrupted by Mr. Slade who said that it was not right nor fair for the Attorney-General when opening a prosecution for the Crown to speak inaccurately and attempt to gloss over the statements so as to prejudice the minds of the jury against the prisoner, more especially as he was aware that the (Mr. Slade) had only had half an hour to prepare his case. Mr. Slade also said in all his experience he had never known cases opened as they were in Hongkong.

His Lordship said he could not ensure the Attorney-General to be so careful as to use his discretion properly.

The witnesses for the prosecution were then called.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

8TH CLUB RACE.

February 18th, 1900.

Course 8. Starters A class 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 class 10, and 11. Wind, north at the start. The *Boreen* went off with a lead at the start, closely followed by the *Bonito* and *Maid Marian*, but on nearing the Channel Rocks the boats were becalmed for about 20 minutes. *Gloria* and *Zetis* then caught a light south air and ran away to where an easterly wind appeared to be starting, and rounded the rocks well ahead of the rest of the fleet. The two second class boats had in the meantime caught up to the A class, and at the Kowloon Rock they were all in a bunch. *Gloria* was round first, then *Maid Marian* and *Zetis* with *Melior* close up. When nearing Meyer's buoy, which had three or four junks attached to it, a fresh east wind was blowing and it was expected that the boats would have a good time for the rest of the race, but it only lasted during the heat up to Channel Rocks the second time, where *Boreen* by a judicious tack to the north had got into first place, with *Melior* second and *Zetis* third. At Kowloon Rock the wind was light again and the rest of the fleet had closed up a bit. In the run to Meyer's buoy *Melior* went into first place, and *Bonito* and *Maid Marian* getting a fresh puff, caught *Zetis* just before rounding it. It was a drift to the finish and the following were the times of crossing the line.

A Class.	Marks.	Total time.
<i>Boreen</i>	4:33.7	40
<i>Maid Marian</i>	4:35.4	41
<i>Bonito</i>	4:46.5	41
<i>Gloria</i>	4:48.37	41
<i>Zetis</i>	4:52.16	42
<i>Chimblee</i>	5:00.0	43
<i>Actie</i>	5:00.0	43
<i>Erica</i>	5:00.0	43
<i>Melior</i>	4:32.10	42
<i>Pat</i>	4:47.48	42
<i>Gascelle</i>	5:19.43	49
<i>Ladybird</i>	5:19.43	49
<i>Payne</i>	5:19.43	49

WAR NEWS BY WIRE.

(From Our Exchanges.)

In Parliament.

THE COMMONS. February 18th.

Parliament was opened at 10. The Ministry, in the speech from the Throne, says: "Peace is unhappily not restored in South Africa; our relations with other States are friendly. In resisting the invasion of my Colonies, my people have responded to my appeal with devotion and enthusiasm. The heroism of my soldiers, sailors, and marines has been equal to the British traditions. I am deeply grieved at the sacrifice of so many valuable lives, and have turned with pride and heartfelt gratification to the patriotic ardour and spontaneous loyalty with which my subjects in all parts of my Kingdom have responded to my call. I am confident that I shall not look to those valiant men in South Africa to desert and leave their comrades in the struggle for the maintenance of the Empire, and the assertion of supremacy in South Africa, are victoriously conducted."

Her Majesty then refers to the Federation of Australia, which is advancing rapidly to the Colonies and to the Empire. The brilliant courage and soldier-like qualities of the Colonial forces have earned high admiration, and I am much gratified at the proofs of loyalty and devotion to the Empire afforded by numerous officers from Indian Native battalions to the front and resources at the disposal of the Empire.

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said that, hoping for an ultimate settlement, the Government had limited itself to what it had been advised were adequate preparations to defend our South African Colonies.

In the debate on the Address in the House of Commons, Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, like Lord Kimberley in the House of Lords, sympathized with India in her calamities, and agreed as to the necessity of the vigorous prosecution of the war to vindicate the integrity of Her Majesty's dominions. He also criticized the unpreparedness of the Government. He repudiated the theory that criticism ought to be withheld until the war was ended and criticized the temper of the negotiations before the war. He dwelt upon the importance of the maintenance of good feeling with the loyal Dutch which, he considered, was essential for a future settlement.

LONDON, February 18th.

During the debate on the Address in reply to the Royal speech, Mr. Goschen said that the Admiralty was enabled to assist the Army without depleting the Navy. The drain on the troops of the country, he added, required the Navy to watch with the greater vigilance. Despite the satisfaction caused by the soundness of Mr. Wyndham's speech and the gravity and dignity of Mr. Goschen's utterance, the debate in the House of Commons is pusillanimous, spiteful and wearisome.

Colonel Sanderson (Leicester) attacked the Irish member on one occasion last night and a disgusting scene ensued, which was only closed by apology.

Mr. Birrell, in his speech, attributed the tediousness of the debate to the vanity of the occupants of the front bench who, he declared, were perpetually quarrelling for precedence and the best nights. He thanked God that the men who founded the Empire died for something better than Government. He turned the error in underestimating the strength of the Transvaal to Mr. Rhodes' lie that Boer bravery was an untricked bubble, and he concluded by a loyal and eloquently rebuking the temper of the House.

Sir W. V. L. Macdonald and Mr. Chamberlain speak on Monday and Mr. Balfour concludes the debate on Tuesday.

For the rest, the nation's mood is one of brooding anxiety. There is a sinister sense that some indefinable danger exists abroad and that the country is not prepared. Nevertheless, the spirit of the nation is one of confidence and courage. Mr. Justice Grantham, addressing the Grand Jury, condemned the pro-Boer sermon by the Dean of Durham in which that dignitary described the recent farewells to the troops as "disgraceful orgies."

Lord Salisbury, in referring to the subject in the House of Lords on Thursday, fully confirmed the sermon was an outrage on our devoted troops.

NATAL.

Plan to Flood Ladysmith.

LONDON, 18th February.

Despairing of taking the devoted town by assault, and impatient of the long and fruitless investment, the Boers, it is stated, are preparing to dam the River Tugela, with the hope thereby to flood Ladysmith and drive the besieged from the caves which have so long protected them from the shells of the investing artillery. The feasibility of such action was suggested some time since by prominent German critics, and was, even in the early days of the siege, attempted by the Boers; but the vigilance of General Buller and the Garrison thwarted success in that direction.

Boers Fear General Buller's Next Attack.

The anxiety of the Boers for the speedy fall of Ladysmith is prompted by the fear that General Buller's next attempt to force the Tugela will be more wholesale than the last, the lesson of which will assist the effect of his tactics.

Reason of the Spionkop Losses.

At Spionkop the arrival of reinforcements left no room for manoeuvring, hence our loss was greater than it would otherwise have been.

More British Prisoners at Pretoria.

It is announced from Pretoria that Captain Freely, and 200 Lancashire Fusiliers, who were captured at Spionkop, have arrived there.

Casualties at Ladysmith.

LONDON, February 18th.

A cablegram from the General of the Line of Communications to the Commander-in-Chief reports that the Ladysmith casualties on 13th January were as follows: Died of disease, 19th Hussars, Private J. Lenane, and King's Royal Rifles, Private H. Neville, Private J. Brogan and Private R. Bennett; 1st Devonshire, from wounds received on the 6th, Private J. Page.

General Buller's Hope.

LONDON, January 31st.

The Cape Town correspondent of the *Daily Mail* states that General Buller on Tuesday read to General Warren's force the Message of the Queen, expressing admiration of the troops during the past trying week. General Buller added that the men ought not to think of the work as unending, as they had gained the key of the road to Ladysmith, in which he hoped to be within a week.

Mr. Winston Churchill, in his despatch to the *Morning Post* says that his troops will try again, and that their confidence in General Buller is entire. Mr. Thorneycroft took command at Spionkop when General Woodgate fell wounded, and was responsible for the withdrawal of the troops referred to in a recent telegram. The Boer losses were comparatively greater than ours, and the enemy were too exhausted to harass our rear-guard in retirement.

The Whole Force Across the Tugela.

A Maritzburg message reads that the whole force has re-crossed the Tugela River. The fatality list issued on Tuesday shows casualties from the crossing of the Tugela River to date as 600 killed and wounded.

Disappointed but not Despondent at Ladysmith.

The *Central News* Ladysmith correspondent says: "We are disappointed, but not despondent, at General Buller's failure. The Boers occupied and fortified Spionkop after the British retreat. It is rumored that General Buller is advancing by another route. The Boers are in a strength around Ladysmith, and have formed a new laager at Colenso. Reinforcements are apparently reaching the Boers from the Transvaal."

SHIPPING REPORTS.

Captain C. N. Cold, of the steamship *Amman*, from Shanghai, reports: "Strong northerly winds."

Captain A. Frapp, of the steamship *Hong Kong*, from Singapore, reports: "Moderate moonlight and fine clear weather from port to port."

Captain W. H. Lunt, of the steamship *Fujian*, from Shanghai, reports: "Fresh moonlight from port to port, strong and high sea from Tung Yang to Breaker Point."

NOT AND A.

CALENDAR.

FEBRUARY.

Meteorological means based on fifteen years' observations to 1895.

Barometer..... 30.141

Thermometer..... 57.3

Humidity..... 71.0

Rainfall..... 1.76

TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.

On date at 4 p.m. On date at 4 p.m.

Barometer..... 30.25 30.20

Temperature..... 35 34

Humidity..... 87 91

Rainfall..... 0.11 0

TO-DAY.

Monday, 19th February, 1900.

Chinese—20th of 1st moon of 26th year of Kwong-sai.

Sun—Rises..... 6hr. 31min.

Set..... 5hr. 37min.

High water—Morning..... 1hr. 32min.

Afternoon..... 5hr. 27min.

Low water—Morning..... 4hr. 27min.

Afternoon..... 8hr. 27min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1473—Cape Verde Islands.

1817—Lord Amherst's Embassy, returning from China, shipwrecked in the Java Sea.

1879—Suicide of Mr. J. M. Farmer at Hongkong.

1894—The M. S. steamer *Saigon* wrecked near Palo Canhar.

1897—Slang, Lazon, captured by the Royalists.

TO-MORROW.

Tuesday, 20th February, 1900.

Chinese—21st of 1st moon of 26th year of Kwong-sai.

Sun—Rises..... 6hr. 31min.

Set..... 5hr. 37min.

High water—Morning..... 1hr. 32min.

Afternoon..... 5hr. 27min.

Low water—Morning..... 4hr. 27min.

Afternoon..... 8hr. 27min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1843—The Chinese Republic started.

1867—Death of John Bull.

1868—Outage on Sir Harry Parkes in Japan.

1897—Aimed at gunnery at 264, Queen's Road Central.

1898—Collision between P. & O. steamer *Borneo* and steamer *Tokyo Maru* in the Indian Sea.

AGENDA.

TO-MORROW.

Daylight E. & A. steamer *Guthrie*, leaves for Australia ports.

Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Stentor* for London.

HONGKONG RACES.

Cargo ex *Guangzhou* subject to rent.

Noni—Indo-China *Kumang* leaves for Calcutta.

WEDNESDAY, 21st.

(About) C. & O. steamer *Belgian King*, leaves for San Diego and San Francisco.

Imperial German mail steamer *Oldenburg*, leaves with mails for Europe.

HONGKONG RACES.

THURSDAY, 22nd.

Noon—T. K. K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, leaves for San Francisco.

Cargo ex steamer *Franz Ferdinand* subject to rent.

(About) P. & O. steamer *Canton*, leaves for London.

HONGKONG RACES.

H.K.V.C. ORDERS.

3 p.m. E. C. E. L. run at Lyemum, Launch leaves S. M. Pier.

FRIDAY, 23rd.

Daylight—N. Y. K. steamer *Nakasa Maru*, leaves for Europe.

Queen's College—Term begins.

4 p.m. N. Y. K. steamer *Kasuga Maru*, leaves for Australia ports.

Cargo ex *Guangzhou* subject to rent.

4.30 p.m.—Range Finding Class.

5.30 p.m.—F. B. Gun Drill at Head quarters and Kowloon docks.

5.30 p.m.—"A," "B," and "C" Co.'s Gun Drill at Head quarters.

5.30 p.m.—"D" Co., Company Drill.

6 p.m.—"E" Co., Company Drill.

OFF DAY HONGKONG RACES.

About P. & O. steamer *Yach*, leaves for Shanghai and Japan.

9 p.m.—A. D. C. Yeoman of the Guard at City Hall.

SUNDAY, 25th.

C. N. steamer *Kasuga*, leaves for Tientsin.

Shewan Tomes & Co.'s steamer *Morven* for New York.

MONDAY, 26th.

3 p.m.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.'s ordinary yearly meeting at Queen's Buildings.

9 p.m.—A. D. C. Yeoman of the Guards at

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

THE DIVIDEND declared for the Half-year ending 31st December, 1899, at the RATE OF ONE POUND AND TEN SHILLINGS together with a BONUS OF TEN SHILLINGS Sterling per Share of \$125 is PAYABLE on and after MONDAY, the Nineteenth February, current at the OFFICES of the Corporation where Shareholders are requested to apply for WARRANTS.

By order of the Board of Directors,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [223b]

THE PUNJON MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that at a MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Company, held at the Company's Office, No. 9, Praya Central, Victoria, Hongkong, on Monday, the 26th day of January, 1900, the following Resolution was passed:—

That a CALL of One Dollar per Share upon all the holders of Ordinary Shares in the above Company in respect of all the Shares held by them in the above Company be and the same is hereby made. Such Calls to be paid to the Company at their Bankers, the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, at their Premises, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong, on or before the 3rd day of March, 1900.

And Notice is also given that in accordance with Article 24 of the Company's Articles of Association, interest will be charged as from the said 3rd day of March, 1900, at the rate of 5 per centum per annum upon all calls remaining unpaid after the said 3rd day of March, 1900, up to the actual dates of payment of the same.

Shareholders are particularly requested to note that upon presentation at the office of the Company of the Bankers' receipt for payment of the call together with the certificate of the shares in respect of which the call has been paid, an endorsement to that effect will be made upon the certificate.

By order of the Board of Directors,
W. H. GASKELL,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1900. [130b]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of the Company, Queen's Buildings, New Praya, on MONDAY, the 26th February, 1900, at 3 o'clock P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1899.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 12th to 25th February, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board of Directors,
THOS. L. ROSE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1900. [127b]

THE CHINA-BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FIRST ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, on WEDNESDAY, the 28th day of February, at 12 o'clock (NOON) to receive a Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1899, and the Report of the Manager and Consulting Committee and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditor.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 28th instant, both days inclusive.

J. WHELEVY,
Manager.
Hongkong, 12th February, 1900. [191b]

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY FIRST ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company, will be held at the Office of the Company, Pender's Street, on THURSDAY, the 1st day of March, 1900, at 12 o'clock (NOON), to receive a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1899, and the Report of the General Managers, and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditor.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th February to the 1st March, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.
HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.
Hongkong, 30th January, 1900. [129b]

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 2, Connaught Road, at NOON, on MONDAY, the 4th March, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1899.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 23rd February to 5th March, both days inclusive.

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [224b]

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LIMITED.

THE FIFTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FIFTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 9, Praya Central, Victoria, on THURSDAY, the 8th March, at 12 o'clock NOON, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1899, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditor.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 20th February to 8th March, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [221b]

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE THIRTY-FIRST ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

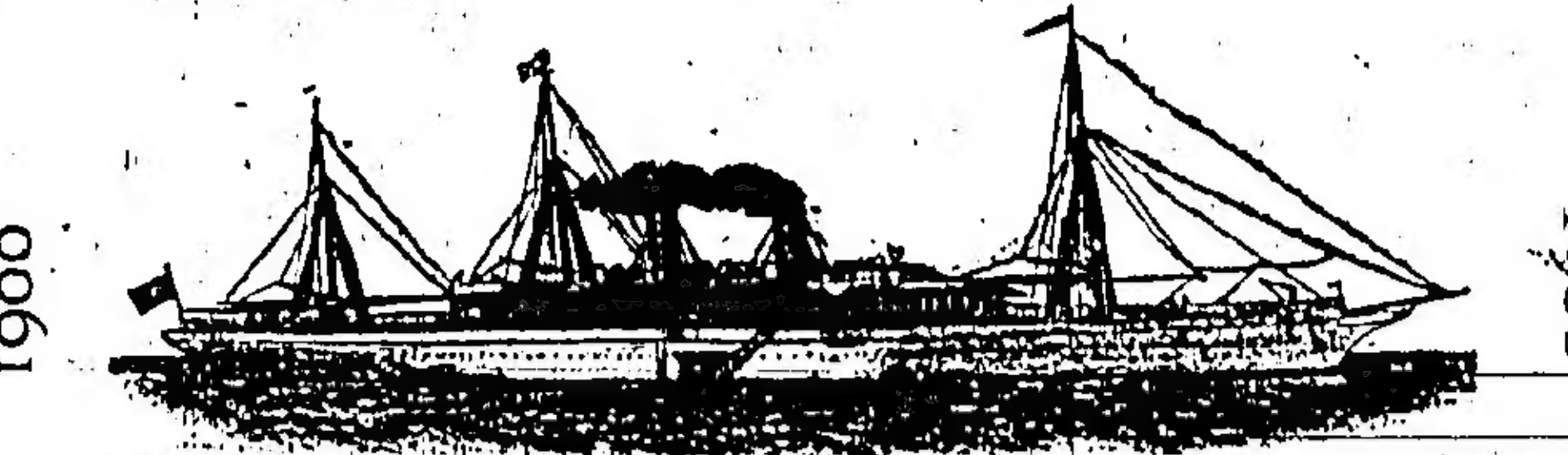
THE THIRTY-FIRST ORDINARY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Company's Office, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, on THURSDAY, the 8th March, at 12 o'clock (NOON), for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1899.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 22nd instant to the 8th March, both days inclusive.

By Order,
GEO. L. TOMLIN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1900. [171b]

Mails.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



SAFETY. SPEED. PUNCTUALITY.

THE FAST ROUTE BETWEEN CHINA, JAPAN AND EUROPE, VIA CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

(CALLING AT SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, YOKOHAMA & VICTORIA, B.C.)

Twin Screw Steamships—6,000 Tons—10,000 Horse Power—Speed 19 knots.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

EMPERESS OF JAPAN...Comdr. Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 14th March.

EMPERESS OF CHINA...Comdr. R. Archibald, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 4th April.

EMPERESS OF INDIA...Comdr. O. P. Marshall, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 23rd April.

THE magnificent Twin-screw Steamships of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make the voyage YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER (B.C.) in 12 DAYS, saving THREE DAYS TO A WEEK in the Trans-Pacific journey, and make connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY which leave daily, and cross the Continent FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, Halifax New York and Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Lines, which passengers to Great Britain and the Continent are given choice of.

Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD. Return tickets to various points at reduced rates, Good for 4, 6, 9 and 12 months. SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

The attractive features of the Company's route embrace its PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS, (second to none in the World), the LUXURIANCE OF ITS TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS (the Company having received the highest award for same at recent Chicago World's Exhibition), and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY through which the Railway passes.

THE DINING CARS AND MOUNTAIN HOTELS of this route are owned and operated by the Company, and their appointments and Cuisine are unexcelled.

For further information, Maps, Guide, Books, Rates of Passage, &c., apply to D. E. BROWN, General Agent, Pender's Street.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1900. [3]

CALIFORNIA AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATCHESON TOPEKA & SANTA FE RAILROAD CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG TO SAN DIEGO AND SAN FRANCISCO, VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

Taking Cargo and Passengers to JAPAN PORTS, and HONOLULU, THE UNITED STATES, &c.

Belgian King...1,379 about Feb. 28

Thyra...1,406 about Mar. 6

Lady Joice...1,406 about Mar. 31

THE Steamship

"BELGIAN KING," will be despatched for SAN DIEGO and SAN FRANCISCO, VIA KOBE, YOKOHAMA AND HONOLULU, on or about WEDNESDAY, the 28th February.

Through Bills of Lading issued to any point in the United States.

Cargo will be received on board until 5 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel packages will be received at the Office until the same day. All parcels should be marked to address in full. Value of same is required.

Consular Invoices, to accompany cargo destined to Points beyond San Diego, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Diego.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, China and Japan.
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [28]

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, KOBE, AND YOKOHAMA.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA, IN CONNECTION WITH NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

ALSO FOR PORTLAND, OREGON, IN CONNECTION WITH OREGON RAILROAD AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

THE attention of Passengers is directed to the very cheap rates offered by the Line, HONGKONG TO LONDON £47.

Excellent accommodation. First-class Tables. Doctor and STEWARDNESS carried.

HONGKONG TO NEW YORK £41.

The Railroad travelling is second to none on the American Continent. Magnificent Scenery of the ROCKY and CASCADE MOUNTAINS. THE YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK route. Passengers to EUROPE may proceed by one of the first-class ATLANTIC MAIL LINES.

HONGKONG TO TACOMA £28.

Rates of Passage to other Points on application. Special rates allowed to members of Government Services.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Points, to Canadian and United States Ports.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in quadruplicate; and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the Freight Agent, Tacoma, Wash., or Portland, Or. (whichever may be the destination of the Steamer).

Parcels must be sent to our Office (with address marked in full) by 5 P.M., on the day previous to sailing.

For further information apply to DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1900. [4]

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL and AMERICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"CLYDE," Captain E. Steel, carrying Her Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this Port for BOMBAY, &c., on SATURDAY, the 3rd March, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement), will be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London; other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay with Transhipment.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills of Lading.

For further Particulars, apply to H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 17th February, 1900. [5]

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND EUROPE, VIA THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Doric (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu) Saturday, 10th Mar., at Noon.

Coptic (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu) Thursday, 5th April, at Noon.

Gaelic (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu) Tuesday, 1st May, at Noon.

THE Company's Steamship

"DORIC," will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, VIA SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA, YOKOHAMA & HONOLULU, on SATURDAY, the 10th March, at Noon.

Steamers of this line pass through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at HONOLULU, and Passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point en route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Rates may be obtained on application.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of Overland Rail routes from San Francisco including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAYS; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of £4 in addition to the regular tariff rate.

Passengers holding orders for OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have between San Francisco and Chicago, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and other direct connecting Railways and from Chicago to destination the choice of direct lines.

Particulars of the various routes can be had on application.

Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, to European officials in the service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railway, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to Ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco in the United States should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, Queen's Building.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent.
Hongkong, 13th February, 1900. [5]

Mails.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.)



PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS DESTINATIONS SAILING DATES.

WAKASA MARU...Marseilles, London & Antwerp, via Singapore, Penang, Colombo and Port Said...FRIDAY, 23rd Feb., at Daylight.

KASUGA MARU...Manila, Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne...FRIDAY, 23rd Feb., at 4 P.M.

FUTAMI MARU...Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama...SATURDAY, 24th Feb., at Noon.

MIKE MARU...Bombay, via Singapore and Colombo...FRIDAY, 2nd March, at Noon.

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings, &c., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office at No. 7, Praya Central.

A. S. MIHARA,
Manager.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1900. [6]

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

(Freight Service.)

(Taking Cargo at through Rates to Antwerp, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Lisbon, Oporto, London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Trieste, Genoa, Ports in the Levant; Black Sea and Baltic Ports; North and South American Ports.)

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

(Freight Service.)

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS DESTINATIONS SAILING DATES.

ALESIA...Bordeaux, Havre & Hamburg...27th February...Freight.

ASTORIA...London with transhipment in Hamburg...About 18th March...Freight.

*SAVOIA...Havre & Hamburg...About 22nd March...Freight and Passage.

SAXONIA...London with transhipment in Hamburg...About 31st March...Freight.

HEIDELBERG...Havre & Hamburg...About 6th April...Freight and Passage.

*These Steamers have Superior Accommodation for Passengers and carry a Doctor and a Stewardess.

For further Particulars as to Freight, Passage, &c., apply to CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

TO SAN FRANCISCO, VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

HONGKONG MARU (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu) Friday, 23rd February, at Noon.

NIPPON MARU (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu) Tuesday, 20th March, at Noon.

AMERICA MARU (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama & Honolulu) Saturday, 14th April, at Noon.

THE Steamship

"HONGKONG MARU," will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, VIA SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA, YOKOHAMA & HONOLULU, on FRIDAY, the 23rd February, at Noon, taking Freight and Passengers for Japan, the United States and Europe.

Steamers of this line pass through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at HONOLULU, and Passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point en route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Rates may be obtained on application.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of Overland Rail routes from San Francisco including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAYS; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of £4 in addition to the regular tariff rate.

Passengers holding orders for OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have between San Francisco and Chicago, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and other direct connecting Railways and from Chicago to destination the choice of direct lines.

Particulars of the various routes can be had on application.

Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, to European officials in the service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railway, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to Ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to points beyond San Francisco in the United States should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, Queen's Building.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent.
Hongkong, 15th February, 1900. [7]

U.S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

*Algoa (via Moji, Kobe) Thursday, 1st March, at Noon.

China (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu) Saturday, 3rd March, at Noon.

City of Rio de Janeiro (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea, Yokohama and Honolulu) Tuesday, 27th March, at Noon.

(* Taking Cargo only.)

THE U.S. Mail Chartered Steamship

"ALGOA," will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, VIA MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA, on or about THURSDAY, the 1st March, at Noon.

Steamers of this line pass through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at Honolulu, and Passengers are allowed to break their journey at any point en route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Rates may be obtained on application.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have the choice of Overland Rail routes from San Francisco including the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAYS; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY on payment of £4 in addition to the regular tariff rate.

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For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, Queen's Building.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent.
Hongkong, 15th February, 1900. [7]

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY ON MR. WHITEHEAD'S PROTEST.

(Continued.)

(Enclosure No. 1 in the Colonial Secretary's Memorandum of the 15th January, 1900.)

His Excellency (the Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart) has said:—Now that this territory has been divided into districts and the sub-district Committee-men have been selected from the elders and gentry, I wish to meet you and to explain to you the principles upon which the government of this portion of the Colony of Hongkong will be conducted. I desire that you who have been officially appointed shall co-operate with the Government in regulating the local affairs of your villages, so that the people shall enjoy security and that there shall be no disorder. The Government has appointed officials who will advise you as to sanitary improvements in the villages so that the health of the people may be preserved, for the Queen of England wishes that all Her Majesty's subjects shall be healthy and prosperous. In giving you the position of Committee-men I rely upon you to discharge your duties in a faithful and upright manner and would call your attention to the fact that one of our most stringent laws is that if as much as one cent is taken from the people except the rates and taxes levied under authority the person extorting it will be rigorously punished by fine and imprisonment and be dismissed in disgrace from his position. I wish to interfere as little as possible with your good customs, but there is one principle of British law that must be insisted upon. All punishment for injuries must be inflicted by the appointed authority under the law. Therefore in case of injury the proper authority must be appealed to and the punishment must not be undertaken by private individuals. The time has now come when all occupiers of land must register their titles with the Land Officer. When application is made giving the exact area of land occupied, a notice will be posted in the village so that if another claims the land he can apply to the Land Officer, when the claims will be considered by the Land Officer. Under the new system of registration issued until the Crown rent has been paid, there should be no delay in registering your titles. The occupier will, in the absence of another claimant, be accepted as owner, but if the person in occupation is decided not to be the proper owner the amount paid by him will be returned, and the rent will be collected from the person decided to be the lawful owner. A few days ago some ill-advised people assembled near Un Long and behaved in a riotous manner, assaulting a party who were examining certain lands. I warn you against such unlawful proceedings, as this was taking the law into their own hands. They should, if they objected, have applied to the Land Officer, who would have examined into the matter and decided upon their objections. Under the powers given to me by the law I would have placed a station of Police upon that land and compelled the villagers who created the disturbance to pay the entire cost of building the station and paying the Police. But I have determined not to do so on this first offence but to warn the people through you that such illegal rioting will be severely punished in the future. The elders of a village can always prevent such disorder by giving timely information to the Police. If they do not prevent it, then they and the villagers will be held responsible. All persons of whatever nation must be free to move about without danger of molestation. You must understand from what I have said that clan fights cannot be allowed. The law is strong enough to protect the rights of every man, and must be appealed to in cases of dispute that cannot be settled by the local committees. I am sorry to find that robberies and gang wars have been frequent, and against such violence you have hitherto not been adequately protected. I have established Police Stations in different parts of the territory for the purpose of preventing such robberies and protecting your lives and property. Since the territory was taken over three months ago many of those robberies have been arrested, the stolen property has been restored to the owners, and a large number of the robbers are now in gaol undergoing sentences of imprisonment for five and seven years. I am determined that such robberies shall be put down, and that law-abiding and peaceable people shall enjoy security that has hitherto been denied them. You have all heard of the cruel murders of innocent men that took place at Un Long in April last. For the murder of one of those men two of the principals in that brutal crime, after a fair and patient trial, have paid the penalty with their lives. I hope that if any bad characters remain in the territory they will take warning and cease from evil ways. I have directed that the law against gambling shall be rigidly enforced. The Chinese law against gambling is very strong, but the officials have not been equally respected. You have seen by my proclamation the amount of Crown rent that has been decided upon as the land rent for the present. In considering what taxes are to be levied on you, you must remember that all the money paid by you to the Government is money that is paid for your protection and for the improvement and development of your property. The money paid for public works is paid to your own labourers for their labour and comes to the labourers in the ordinary course of business. Up to the present over ten thousand dollars have been paid in wages to the working people of this district and now that gambling has been stopped this money will be spent in the purchase of land for farms or of food and clothing from the shops, while the main road from Kowloon to Tai Po will enable the people to send in their produce to market in any weather. There will be a license tax on all business houses but you have been relieved from the payment of all customs duties and monopolies that raised the price of everything that you consumed. Do not object to strangers coming to the district. They will all bring money and increase the wealth and comfort of the people. I know that many people from this district have travelled to other countries. They must have seen how capital employs labour and produces wealth. With the introduction of fresh capital into this district I hope to see one day some of you now driven to evil courses for want of occupations will find within their reach employment that will enable them to live respectably. I have appointed you to the responsible position of Committee-men because you have been recommended to me by your villagers. Do not forget that your responsibility is very real, as I look to you to preserve the peace and good order of your villages, and to report to the authorities all bad characters and persons who endeavour to stir up strife. With the support of the Sub-district Committee-men and the villagers I look for the firm establishment of internal peace and prosperity, and if I undertake that you shall be fully protected by the Government from any interference from without, I wish to add a few more words on the subject of land. It has been reported to me that as soon as the Convention between the Emperor of China and the Queen of Great Britain was signed certain people were induced to sell their lands at a low value by being told that the British Government would take possession of the land without payment when they came into the territory. I take this opportunity of telling you, the elders

and gentry of all the villages, that if any man has been induced to sell his land by these false representations and he is not satisfied, he can give notice to the Land Officer, who will not register the title until the real question at issue has been looked into and decided. I have mentioned all this before by proclamation, but I wish to emphasize it more strongly now that I see the gentry and elders before me, as I am determined that if any man has been improperly induced to give his land away under its value I won't accept the sale as valid.

(Enclosure No. 2 in the Colonial Secretary's Memorandum of the 15th January, 1900.)

The Acting Attorney-General—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the summoning of Chinese before the Registrar General. This Bill is for the summoning of Chinese before the Registrar General to give information regarding any matter in which the Registrar General is directed by the Governor to enquire. The reason for this Bill is that it is necessary that the Registrar General should have power to summon before him any Chinese whom he desires to question upon any matter of importance connected with the New Territories and affecting the Chinese. At present there is no power for the Registrar General to compel the appearance before him of Chinese, and it is very desirable that he should have such power. I may mention, Sir, this Bill is framed upon similar lines to certain laws which are in operation in the Malay States. I understand from the Registrar General that it is necessary that he should have this power to summon Chinese before him, and that it would very much facilitate the government of the New Territories if such a measure as this is passed.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

The Honourable Dr. Ho Kai—I do not intend to offer a strong opposition to the second reading of the Bill, but at the same time, Sir, I would wish to remind the Council that a Bill of this nature confers a very great power which, in some respects, is not possessed even by His Excellency the Governor or by the Chief Justice. As the Bill we have before us contains certain provisions expressly affecting the Chinese, and the Chinese alone, whether British subject or otherwise—and this makes the Bill very much more objectionable—it may be considered as class legislation, and as a general rule the Legislature regard such legislation with a great deal of disapproval and suspicion. In the present instance, I must say that in dealing with the affairs of the New Territory it may be necessary for the Registrar General to possess such power in order effectively to carry out his functions, and for that reason I and my Honourable colleagues who represent with me the Chinese have thought it wise not to offer any strong opposition. Of course, we are quite prepared to sacrifice a certain amount of our liberty with the object of helping the Government to carry out their policy for the good of the Chinese inhabitants of the New Territory, but at the same time I would ask your Excellency to give instructions, if this Ordinance be passed, that tact and discretion should be exercised. Otherwise the Chinese will suffer great deal, and in the case of an abuse of power I hope your Excellency will give instructions that speedy redress shall be given. On a former occasion, when a law was passed for the inspection of houses, the Governor at the time (Sir William Robinson) gave the Council his word that such powers would be exercised with a great deal of tact and discretion and that in the case of an abuse of such power he would at once direct a strict enquiry. I wish your Excellency to consider whether a measure of this kind should be allowed to continue for a very long time. I think it will meet the circumstances of the case if this Ordinance is allowed to be in operation for 12 months or a definite period, and at the end of that period it may be renewed from year to year if considered necessary. Of course the New Territory in its present condition requires special legislation, but by and by when it has become enlightened and prosperous like Hongkong, I see no reason why it should not be brought under the same laws as Hongkong. In an old Ordinance passed for the protection of women and children we have a provision is renewed from year to year, and in this case in committee I shall move that a clause be inserted limiting the operation of the measure to 12 months, at the end of which time it may be renewed if necessary.

The Honourable Wei A. Yuh—I have much pleasure in endorsing the observations which have fallen from the Honourable Member.

His Excellency the Governor—I think the observations of the Honourable Members who have just spoken are very much to the point and I think it is only right that not more the Council but that the Chinese people in the New Territory should have some idea why this Bill is introduced by the Government (at the present time). The condition of the New Territory is peculiar. The Chinese do not understand our ways, and we desire—I desire most heartily—to interfere with the Chinese and their customs as little as possible, but it is absolutely necessary that land in the New Territory should be registered. Of course, all members of the Council know that, in the interests of the Chinese themselves, it should be registered, which I hope will be removed in the course of time. The Chinese have not been for some time as anxious to register their land as they might be, and for a considerable time we have found great difficulty in getting the Chinese to come forward and give any information about their land or about registration. It then became necessary to approach the Chinese through their elders, their leaders, for the purpose of inducing them to come in, they gave no attention whatever to the invitation. Such conduct under Chinese jurisdiction—refusing when invited by a high official to come in and assist him and give him information—would not have been tolerated for an instant. We do not propose to take the stringent measures which would have been taken had the people remained under Chinese jurisdiction, but we do wish to get the people to come forward and give information about their land, with reference to the supervision, so to speak, of the exercise of this power, the Honourable Member will see from the second clause that the Governor may at any time direct the Registrar General to enquire into and report as to any matter which is connected with the New Territories as defined by section 2 of the Ordinance No. 12 of 1899, if such matter exclusively concerns persons of Chinese race, whether British subjects or otherwise. The Registrar General will only summon Chinese to come before him in certain cases into which he is directed by the Governor to enquire. Therefore, in no case can there be any action whatever without the direction of the Governor, and I think the Honourable Member will accept my assurance that the Ordinance will be carried out with every consideration for Chinese and that we shall never be forced to bring the provisions of the Ordinance into operation at all. I think that what is known that we have power to compel the attendance of those people who do not up to the present appear

anxious to come forward, the Chinese will yield gracefully to the necessity and come in when invited without our having to resort to this power. With reference to the suggestion of the Honourable Member that this Bill should have a duration clause, I think it is a very fair suggestion. I shall have no objection whatever to it. I hope that, in a short time, the necessity for any such Ordinance as this will disappear.

The Council then went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause. On the suggestion of the Honourable Dr. Ho Kai, seconded by the Honourable Wei A. Yuh, the following clause was added to the Bill:—“This Ordinance shall continue in operation for a period of two years from the coming into operation of this Ordinance, and for such further period or periods as may from time to time be determined by resolution of the Legislative Council.” The Bill passed through committee and the Council resumed.

(Enclosure No. 3 in the Colonial Secretary's Memorandum of the 15th January, 1900.)

English version

Chinese Proclamation issued by His Excellency Sir Henry Arthur Blake, Governor, &c. I, Sir Henry Arthur Blake, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, hereby inform you, the landowners in the New Territories, that an Officer will visit the sub-districts for the purpose of registering landowners on a date due notice of which will be given to you. All you who can show that you have had possession of landed property for some time must fill up a schedule in the following form:—

1. Name of owner.
2. Nature of title.
3. Date of lease or grant (if any).
4. Number of years in occupation.
5. Description of land.
6. Dimensions of land.
7. Situation of land.

When these schedules are distributed to a village, any person who claims land as his property must fill up a schedule and bring it in person to the Visiting Officer, when he comes to the village in which such person resides; and the Officer will make an entry in the register that such person is the owner and will add such other particulars as may be necessary. A list of those who have been registered as landowners in the village and their holdings will be posted in the village for seven days, and afterwards an extract of the entry of each holding will be made to be handed to the owner. But before it is handed to the owner he must pay the amount of Crown Rent fixed as due by him. If no Rent is paid, the land will be forfeited to the Government without fail. If there is any unsettled dispute about property, the name of the person in actual possession will be registered, and he must pay the Crown Rent, but an extract of an entry in the Register will not be issued until the Squatters' Board has ascertained that the person in possession is the legal owner and that the person in possession has been approved by me. In that case an extract will be issued to him, and he will be permitted to remain in possession. But should the Board decide that the property is really not his property, the Crown Rent paid by him will be refunded, and the person who is adjudged by the Board to be the person who should pay the rent and who is approved as such by me, must forthwith pay the rent due. All you owners of land must report all the land in your possession. Should it be found that any land owned by any person has not been reported, it will be treated as Government land. A survey will shortly be made of the whole of the Leased Territory, so that the boundaries of the various holdings may be clearly known; and any cases of neglect to report on the part of owners of land will be easily discovered, and will involve forfeiture of the property to Government. Do not say that I have not warned you. The Crown Rent including all charges fixed for the present is given below. You must all without exception obey. Do not be disobedient. A special proclamation:—

- (i) For land draining in a Southernly direction to the sea between Lyemum Point on the East and the Pier in the bay West of Lai Chi Kok on the West per half mau or portion thereof as follows:—
(a) For First class land 25 cents, or at the rate of \$3.30 per acre per annum.
(b) For Second class land 20 cents, or at the rate of \$2.64 per acre per annum.
(c) For Third class land 10 cents, or at the rate of \$1.32 per acre per annum.
- (ii) For all land (except land draining in a Southernly direction to the sea between Lyemum Point on the East and the Pier in the bay West of Lai Chi Kok on the West) per half mau or portion thereof as follows:—
(a) First class land 15 cents, or at the rate of \$1.98 per acre per annum.
(b) Second class land 10 cents, or at the rate of \$1.32 per acre per annum.
(c) Third class land 5 cents, or at the rate of 66 cents per acre per annum.

The above scale of Crown Rent may be altered. When the survey has been completed permanent certificates of titles will be issued. If anyone has been forcibly deprived of his land or been fraudulently induced to sell land at a low price, he may present a petition to the District Officer if he lives North of the Kowloon range of hills, or if he lives South of it to the Registrar General or the Visiting Officer, to be forwarded to the Squatters' Board for enquiry. Dated 12th day of July, 1899.

Intimations.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS,
COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
NAVAL CONTRACTORS,
AND GENERAL COMMISSIONERS.
PRAYA CENTRAL HONGKONG,
SOAP MANUFACTURERS.

HARTMAN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE
COMPOSITION RED HAND
BRAND, HARTMAN'S GREY PAINT,
DAILERS PATENT MOTOR
LAUNCHES, &c.
&c., &c.
Sole Agents for
FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM
and
P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH
WHISKY, &c.
EVERY KIND OF
SHIPS STORES AND REQUISITES
ALWAYS IN STOCK.

REASONABLE PRICES.
Hongkong, 14th May, 1896.

SIEN TING,
SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 10, D'AGUIAR STREET.
TERMS VERY MODERATE.
Consultation free.
Hongkong, 27th September, 1898.

“NANCHANG,”
Captain Finlayson, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 7th March.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 17th February, 1900.

“GUTHRIE,”
Captain Dabell, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant, at Daylight.
This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.
This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.
A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.
N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA, are available for return by the Steamers of the CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY and vice versa.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
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Hongkong, 19th February, 1900.

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For Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 19th February, 1900.

“KUMSANG,”
Captain Payne, will be despatched as above on TO-MORROW, the 20th instant, at Noon.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 19th February, 1900.

“GLEN” LINE OF STEAMSHIPS.
FOR SHANGHAI.
“GLEN TURRET”
Captain Payne, will be despatched as above on TO-MORROW, the 20th instant, at Noon.
For Freight, apply to
McGREGOR BROS. & GOW,
Agents.
Hongkong, 19th February, 1900.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.
“STENTOR,”
Captain Jackson, will be despatched on TO-MORROW, the 20th February.
For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1900.

Shipping. STEAMERS.

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.
(Calling at TIMOR, PORT DARWIN & QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)
THE Steamship
“GUTHRIE,”
Captain Dabell, will be despatched as above on TO-MORROW, the 20th instant, at Daylight.
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Captain Dabell, will be despatched as above on TO-MORROW, the 20th instant, at Daylight.
This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.
This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.
A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.
N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from MANILA, are available for return by the Steamers of the CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY and vice versa.
For Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 19th February, 1900.

